

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/552,760

Applicant(s)

ASAO, YASUFUMI

Examiner

MANSOUR M. SAID

Art Unit

2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5/6/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-13.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 8/29/05 & 10/11/05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### Allowable Subject Matter

**1. Claims 1-13 are allowed.**

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1-13 are allowed since certain key features of the claimed invention are not taught or fairly suggested by prior art. **In claim 1**, “the light reflection area comprises a plurality of subareas including a first subarea in which the incident light is modulated and reflected in a brightness change range within which a brightness of a reflected light is variable and a hue change range within which a hue of a chromatic color assumed by a reflected light is variable and a second subarea provided with a color filter in which incident light is modulated and reflected in a brightness change range within which a brightness of a reflected light is variable, wherein in the light transmission area, the incident light is modulated in a brightness change range within which a brightness of a transmitted light is variable, wherein said light source is periodically switched at least between two lights different in color, and wherein said apparatus further comprises means for performing the modulation in the light transmission area in synchronism with the switching in color of said light source”. **In claim 11**, “wherein said pixel has a plurality of areas including a first area in which incident light from a front surface of said display panel is modulated and reflected in a brightness change range within which a brightness of a reflected light is variable and a hue change range within which a hue of a chromatic color assumed by a reflected light is variable, a second area provided with a color filter in which incident light from the front surface of said

display panel is modulated and reflected in a brightness change range within which a brightness of a reflected light is variable, and a third area in which incident light from a back surface is modulated and transmitted in a brightness change range within which a brightness of a transmitted light is variable to cause at least two lights different in color to successively and periodically pass through the third area". The closest prior art Asao et al. (2006/0055713 A1) teaches a color display using a medium that has a brightness modulation range and a brightness is changed by the modulation and a plurality of sub-pixels in including a first sub-pixel and a second sub-pixel having a color filter, however, singularly or in combination with other prior art, fail to anticipate or render, at least "means for performing the modulation in the light transmission area in synchronism with the switching in color of said light source" and ... "a third area in which incident light from a back surface is modulated and transmitted in a brightness change range within which a brightness of a transmitted light is variable to cause at least two lights different in color to successively and periodically pass through the third area".

2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Yoshihara et al. (2007/0063925 A1) teach a liquid crystal display device includes a desired brightness is attained at the overlaid portion of the liquid crystal panels.

Narutaki et al. (2004/00218807 A1) teach a color filter layer and display device comprising a first region and a second region and a color filter layer is different between the first region and the second region.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mansour M. Said whose telephone number is 571-272-7679. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 8:30-6:00 P.M. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard A. Hjerpe whose telephone number is 571-272-7681.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to: 571-273-8300 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to the Customer Service Window at the Randolph Building, 401, Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be


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obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

**Mansour M. Said**

**1/5/08**



FORWARDED HERE  
CURRENT STATUS: PENDING  
DATE: 1/5/08